Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support (SUCCESS) Programme – RSPN Component

Second Interim Narrative Report (October 2016-September 2017)

Submitted to:

European Union Delegation to Pakistan

Submitted by:

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Contents

Acronyms

CAT	Community Awareness Toolkit
CDD	Community Driven Development
CI	Community Institutions
CIF	Community Investment Fund
CO	Community Organisation
CPI	Community Physical Infrastructure
EU	European Union
GoS	Government of Sindh
IGG	Income Generating Grant
LSO	Local Support Organisation
MHI	Micro Health Insurance
MIP	Micro Investment Plan
NRSP	National Rural Support Programme
PIM	Programme Implementation Manual
PSC	Poverty Scorecard
RSP	Rural Support Programme
RSPN	Rural Support Programmes Network
SRSO	Sindh Rural Support Organisation
SUCCESS	Sindh Union Council and Economic Strengthening Support
TRDP	Thardeep Rural Development Programme
TVST	Technical and Vocational Skills Training
UCBPRP	Union Council Based Poverty Reduction Programme
VO	Village Organisation

1. Description

This document outlines the progress made by the Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) from October 2016 to September 2017 in the implementation of the European Union (EU) funded "Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support (SUCCESS) Programme – RSPN Component". Section 1 gives a summary of the programme. Section 2 starts with an executive summary, reviews progress on activities and key achievements to-date and presents work plan for the next year, while section 3 highlights the relationship between beneficiaries/affiliated entities and other cooperation. Section 4 reports on whether the visibility of the EU contribution is being ensured in the programme.

1.1	Name of Coordinator of the grant:	Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN)
1.2	Name and title of the Contact person	Khaleel A.Tetlay, Chief Operating Officer, RSPN
1.3	Name of Beneficiaries and affiliated entities in the Action	Beneficiaries: National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO), Thardeep Rural Development Programme (TRDP), Government of Sindh (GoS)
1.4	Title of the action	Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support (SUCCESS) Programme – RSPN Component
1.5	Contract Number	DCI-ASIE/2015/364-599
1.6	Start date and end date of the reporting period	October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017
1.7	Target country(ies) or region(s):	Pakistan, Sindh
1.8	Final beneficiaries &/or target groups[1] (if different) (including numbers of women and men):	Target Group: SUCCESS partner Rural Support Programmes (NRSP, SRSO and TRDP), Government of Sindh and District Governments. Final Beneficiaries: People and people's organisations benefiting from the SUCCESS Programme: 770,000 households, 307 LSOs, 3,240 VOs and 32,400 COs.
1.9	Country(ies) in which the activities take place (if different from 1.7):	N/A

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[1] "Target groups" are the groups/entities who will be directly positively affected by the project at the Project Purpose level, and "final beneficiaries" are those who will benefit from the project in the long term at the level of the society or sector at large.

2. Assessment of Implementation of Action activities

2.1. Executive summary of the Action

The **Specific Objective** of the SUCCESS Programme RSPN component is to promote a common approach in programme design, implementation and the standardisation of processes to ensure that the programme delivery is efficient and effective. The first year of the programme focused on developing tools of standardisation. However, in the second year priority remained to implement the programme as effectively, and efficiently as possible.

To initiate the household level interventions, which include community investment fund (CIF), income generating grants (IGG), micro health insurance (MHI), and technical and vocational skills training (TVST), was the main focus of second year. The pace of achieving the targets for these interventions has been slow, however, the partner RSPs are picking up the speed and are expected to be on track for year three. Progress on the key indicators under the specific objective of the programme is given below:

Indicator 1 *A common implementation approach and methodology adopted by all the SUCCESS implementing partner RSPs*: All three partner RSPs have adopted a common implementation approach and methodologies outlined in the Programme Implementation Manual (PIM) and the Monitoring & Evaluation framework, Quality Control Plan, Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) and associated tools which were developed through a consultative process and provided backstopping support by RSPN in year one. Detailed progress on these was reported in the First Interim Report (MoV-1).

Indicator 2 *Percentage of project outputs which are reported as achieved or on track:* The progress as of September 2017 on the key performance indicators is presented in table 1.

Table 1: Key Performance Indicators (Targets and Achievement)

Sr.	Description	Target (Feb 2016- Jan 2018)	Achievements (Feb 2016- Sep 2017)	
			Numbers	(%)
1	Poverty Scorecard household coverage	1,098,865	849,777	77
2	Number of Households Organised	500,422	394,522	79
3	Number of Women COs formed	23,500	21,352	91
4	Number of Women VOs formed	2,117	2,039	96
5	Number of Women LSOs formed	239	114	48
6	Number of District and Taluka level JDCs formed	35	28	80
7	Number of Women Leaders Trained (CMST/LMST)	47,000	40,405	86
8	Number of Women trained in Vocational & Technical Skills	33,115	103	0.3
9	Number of Community Resource Persons (CRPs) trained	2,610	1,469	56
10	Number of Households Benefiting from CIF	63,370	1,170	2
11	Number of Households insured for Micro Health Insurance	117,344	54,011	46
12	Number of Community Physical Infrastructures initiated	632	18	3

Indicator 3 *Level of satisfaction of SUCCESS Programme partners with RSPN's contribution in identified areas:* The partner RSPs have shown high level of satisfaction with RSPN's contribution in the design of the programme, support in standardisation of approaches, communication of the work to wider audience and regular supporting supervision during the programme implementation. This is evident from the first ROM mission report and the first annual evaluation report of the SUCCESS component. The first external evaluation report ranked the programme overall at 4 on a scale of 1 to 5, signifying major strengths of the approach, good design feature, and high quality of results delivered and adopted by implementing partners. The final report also contains the key findings, and recommendations for RSPN to better implement the programme (MoV-2). With regard to the RSPN, ROM concluded that almost all the planned outputs have been delivered. The RSPN Component has

played a strategic role in supporting the implementing RSPs in effective design, delivery, quality control, and reporting on the main components.

2.2. Activities and results

Start-up project activities:

The RSPN component of the SUCCESS Programme has four expected results, with respective indicators, and corresponding activities to achieve them. The following start up activities were planned and completed in year one. Detailed progress on these were reported in the First Interim Report. (MoV-1)

A.1. *Hiring of Programme Staff and their Orientation on SUCCESS Programme*

A.2. *Setting up of Programme Office*

A.3. *Orientation of programme staff at Islamabad*

A.4. *Programme Inception Workshop with Key Stakeholders (RSPs, EU, P&D – GoS) at Karachi*

Expected Results

ER 1: SUCCESS Programme delivery, efficiency and impact measured and reported timely.

Logframe Indicators:

1.1. A common approach for undertaking baselines by the implementing RSPs by end of the six months.
1.2. A common M&E framework for the programme developed by end of the first six months.
1.3. Annual Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) report published by RSPN on behalf of SUCCESS RSPs.

The first two indicators of ER 1 have been achieved in the first year of the programme through undertaking the following activities. Detailed progress on these activities have been reported in the First Interim Report. (MoV-1)

A1.1. *Development of common approach with RSPs for undertaking the baselines (methodology, indicators, targets, processes, etc.) for the SUCCESS Programme;*

A1.2. *Development of a common M&E framework for the RSPs with key performance indicators for the SUCCESS Programme*

A1.3. *Training of RSPs M&E staff on M&E framework and baseline approaches and methodologies and KPI reporting*

A1.4. ***Technical Support to RSPs in Implementation of baseline approaches and methodologies and M&E framework:*** Building upon the first year's progress of developing the baseline approaches, methodologies and M&E framework, in the second year RSPN team reviewed the draft socio-economic baseline survey report prepared by the consultants that were hired by RSPs and finalised the baseline survey reports. The final consolidated baseline survey report is available at MoV-3.

Supportive supervision has been extended to the RSPs in the form of field visits for spot checks, post verification of activities, process monitoring and technical support in implementation of programme activities.

Field monitoring visits have covered the roll-out and implementation of the Poverty Scorecard (PSC) survey, social mobilisation activities including programme introductions, Community Organisations (COs), Village Organisations (VOs) and Local Support

Organisations (LSOs) formations, Community Management Skills Training (CMST), Leadership Management Skills training, Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) sessions, development of household level and village level development plans and roll out of household level interventions for example Community Investment Fund (CIF), Micro Health Insurance (MHI) and progress review meetings in the field with RSP programme staff.

For these purposes, regular field visits are undertaken by RSPN core and RSPN SUCCESS technical and management team members. Supervision and support is also provided to RSP staff through regular desk monitoring, particularly of the PSC survey and coverage of households in community organisations. For assistance in social mobilisation activities and trainings, quality control checklists are used by the Monitoring and Evaluation teams in the field to ensure that all relevant steps are being covered by the field teams prescribed to the relevant programme activities as provided in the Programme Implementation Manual (PIM) for the SUCCESS Programme. Field observations have been documented in the form of field visit reports, shared with RSPs and being follow on points that requires actions. (MoV-4)

A1.5.   ***Annual reporting on common KPIs for the SUCCESS Programme:*** In order to report on the overall SUCCESS Programme performance, a set of common Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are developed for the overall SUCCESS Programme in consultation with the implementing RSPs and made part of the M&E framework and an online dashboard has been developed, which is in use to track the progress on these KPIs. Currently, the dashboard is reporting on the KPIs relevant to the programme interventions that have been or are being implemented. As programme implementation moves forward, relevant KPIs will be added to the dashboard (MoV-5). Upon completion of the first year of the RSPs component in Feb 2017, RSPN published an annual reports titled "A year of SUCCESS – Annual Key Performance Indicators (KPI) Report 2016-17". The annual KPI report in addition to report on the KPIs and achievements of the programme also features the work of all SUCCESS partners (GoS, RSPs, Technical Assistance component and Community Institutions) and donor (EU) in promoting the CDD approach in Sindh. Digital and print versions of the report is widely disseminated to all stakeholders, including government officials, particularly to advocate and showcase the work of SUCCESS Programme (MoV-6)

A1.6.   ***Development of MIS with mapping to track KPIs:*** In the SUCCESS Programme, the help of technology has been employed in various parts of programme implementation. To track and report on the KPIs of the overall SUCCESS Programme, RSPN has developed an online dashboard, based on the web-based Management Information System (MIS) being used by the SUCCESS partners in programme implementation activities.

The KPIs have been mapped on different geographic layers, e.g. provincial, districts, *taluka* and union councils to present an overall user-friendly snap-shot of the current progress in the programme. The dashboard exhibits a complete picture of the PSC survey, including the coverage of households in all eight districts, with break-ups provided as RSP-wise and score-wise. The results are also shown on key indicators gathered from the survey such as demographic composition, schooling, work status, adult literacy, disabilities, facilities and household assets to name a few.

The dashboard also provides a day-to-day updated status on social mobilisation activities, which includes the formation of community institutions (CO/VO/LSO), human resource development, capacity building activities and community trainings.

Other reports can also be generated including completed village profiles and community discussion progress. The dashboard also reflects real time progress on the SUCCESS

Programme interventions including Community Investment Fund (CIF) and Income Generating Grants (IGG) disbursement, Micro Health Insurance (MHI) and Technical and Vocational Skills Training (TVST) progress as these activities are implemented in the field. The dashboard is publically available on the SUCCESS website with the purpose of making information available for all stakeholders to be used for planning purposes and monitoring the progress. (MoV-5)

ER 2: SUCESSS programme implementation methodologies and processes standardised across the partner RSPs, in order to guarantee quality, coherence and improvements.

Logframe Indicators:

2.1. Similar Implementation Manual/Guidelines adopted by SUCCESS partner RSPs
2.2. Number of SUCCESS RSPs staff trained on Programme Implementation Manual
2.3. Quality Control Plan developed by RSPN and adopted by RSPs

The following five activities under ER 2 have been completed in the first year and reported in the First Interim Report (MoV-1):

A2.1. **Technical support to the RSPs in the design of the SUCCESS Programme to ensure uniformity of approach and processes during implementing**
A2.2. **Development of common SUCCESS Programme Implementation Manual (PIM)**
A2.3. **Development of Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) on critical social sector issues**
A2.4. **Development of quality control plan and quality control tools**
A2.5. **Orientation Training of RSPs' key SUCCESS Programme staff on PIM, CAT and quality control plan and quality control tools**

The following on-going activity continued in the 2 year of the programme

A2.6. **Supportive supervision and quality control spot check visits during the SUCCESS Programme implementation:** RSPN's technical and programme team have been conducting visits to the programme districts regularly. The purpose of these visits is to support the RSPs implementation team to ensure quality. During the reporting period the RSPN Programme Manager SUCCESS, M&E officer SUCCESS and RSPN core M&E Specialist RSPN, RSPN Social Mobilisation Specialist, Programme Officer Gender visited the NRSP, TRDP and SRSO programme districts where the programme activities are being implemented.

They reviewed the implementation process with the field teams and also visited the community institutions' formation process, training conducted for field teams and community trainings and provided feedback to RSPs SUCCESS management and teams in the field and the community institutions members and leaders (MoV-4). The RSPN team has also been performing regular quality control spot check visits in randomly selected intervention areas and providing feedback for course corrections during the implementation of the SUCCESS Programme. These quality control spot check visits result in communication of findings and recommendations to the project implementation team on important aspects of the programme implementation process according to the quality control plans. The results of these visits are communicated in writing through email, Note for Record (NFR) and through sharing during weekly programme review meetings. Key lessons from these visits include:

- Overall, social mobilisation activities such as formation of CO/VO/LSO are on track in terms of targets as well as quality of processes being followed in mobilising the rural

poor. However, in terms of year 2 household interventions of the programme, which include CIF, IGG, TVST, the progress is slow in all RSPs. For CIF/IGG opening of bank accounts and for TVST procurement process took more time than expected.

- The community saving programme is running smoothly so far. However, there is no account at CO level for savings and currently savings are kept by the CO Manager's in cash – which is not a good practice once the amount increases in future, therefore it is important to either encourage the COs to open bank accounts or to develop mechanisms for utilisation of savings.

- To create an effective information flow among the three tiered structure and its members it is important that in the monthly meetings of COs, monthly progress report should be filled and members should know about the progress of the CO. Each CO representative should present this progress report at their respective VO monthly meeting and the VO should consolidate its member CO progress reports and present in their respective LSO's monthly meeting. Similarly the LSO representative should share their respective LSOs progress in their respective monthly meeting of VOs and the VO members should share the progress of their respective VO progress in their respective CO meetings on monthly basis. This two way progress update should be regular agenda item in the monthly meeting of all the three tiered community institutions. This will not only keep the members informed about the progress of their community institutions at all level but it will also show the big picture of their efforts and strengths.

Apart from the spot check, the RSPN's social sector has been providing technical assistance to the field teams during the reporting period. The RSPN's social sector facilitated training events for SRSO's team on CAT. This event was facilitated at SRSO's Institute of Management and Skills Development, Sukkur from December 31, 2016 to January 02, 2017. A total of 57 social organizers and capacity building assistants of SUCCESS Programme were trained. These training events focused to improve the technical knowledge of participants about topics (Health, Education, WASH, DDR and climate change and civic rights& registration) included in the CAT and helped them to understand how community awareness related to such issues can bring positive change in lives of rural communities. (MoV-7)

Through mock exercises, the participants were trained on use of the counselling cards given in CAT to facilitate the awareness session. During these trainings, the participants also learned the methodology for step down training of the CRPs on CAT and use of quality assurance tools to monitor the awareness sessions to be conducted by CRPs. These training events also helped the participants to understand the service delivery mechanism by public and private sector related to social sector. They also learned how to create productive linkages of CRPs and community institutions (COs/VOs and LSOs) with public and private sector to have improved access of poor to critical social sector services.

In addition to this, the RSPN's social sector also developed the training agenda for step down training of the CRPs. As the CAT has 12 sessions already, it was not possible to train the CRPs on all topics in a one-day training workshop on CAT proposed by RSPs. Hence, the RSPN proposed to use the monthly meetings of CRPs as capacity building event for CRPs on CAT. The RSPN's social sector developed training agenda for each monthly meeting. As per this agenda, the RSPs will train the CRPs for only one session in one meeting thus CRPs will be trained for all topics over a period of one year. Agendas for CRPs training were shared with RSPs and RSPN's Specialist Social Sector during visit to SRSO and NRSP offices.

The RSPN also provided support to SRSO for the first training of the CRPs on CAT and provided guidance to social organizers and capacity building assistants to conduct the training as per given guidelines.

A2.7. ***Organising RSPs strategic support group meetings (SMRT, GRG, M&ERG, SSRG, FACT) for lessons learnt and standardisation:*** Through its all RSPs sectoral resource groups including Social Mobilisation Resource Team (SMRT), Gender Resource Group (GRG), Social Sector Resource Group (SSRG), M&E Resource Group (MERG) and Finance, Audit and Compliance Team (FACT), RSPN is providing technical support to the all partner RSPs. These resource groups are comprised of RSPs' sectoral heads/experts in their respective fields. The resource groups are internal practice communities and focus on a particular subject which is usually an area of strategic interest and/or of operational interest to the RSPs. The purpose of these resource groups is to promote the practice of creating and developing indigenous knowledge, promote innovation, and produce knowledge products that will aid and improve the delivery of RSPs' core functions.

During the reporting period, SMRT, MERG and SSRG meetings, have been conducted twice as planned. The first meeting of SMRT was held on 14th December, 2016 (MoV-8) and second held on 21st May, 2017 (MoV-9). The first and only meeting of FACT was held in April 2017 (MoV-10). The first meeting of MERG was held on 28th March, 2017 (MoV-11), while the second meeting was held on 12th September, 2017 (MoV-12). The first SSRG meeting was held on 4th January, 2017 (MoV-13), while the second was held in August 2017 (MoV-14). The first meeting of GRG was held on 9th May 2017 (MoV-15), while the second was held in September 2017 (MoV-16).

In addition to the above resource groups, a Forum for Advancement of Communication Expertise (FACE) has also been set up by RSPN, as an all-RSPs resource group for communication. FACE meetings are held bi-annually and the nominated staff member from each partner RSP are provided with training in specific communications skills, for which RSPN obtained expertise from a well-known communication firm called White Rice. The trainings have included critical messaging on social and print media, the art of story-telling, feature writing, developing infographics, photography and editing, video shooting and editing, developing presentations, and media relations. The first meeting and training of FACE was held on 8th and 9th May, 2017 (MoV-17), while the second meeting is planned for October 2017.

The resource group meetings generate an environment of learning from each other's experiences and learn from best practices. Every meeting is followed by action points which are generated through the discussions, and shared with the participants and are to be worked on for the next meeting.

A2.8. ***Organising National Convention of LSOs:*** In order to promote the work of the community institutions fostered by the Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) across the country, and to advocate their work and achievements to broader set of stakeholders, including policy makers, government authorities, donor agencies, non-government organisations (NGOs), and other stakeholders, RSPN organised this year's National Convention of Local Support Organisations (LSOs) in Islamabad, on 15th September, 2017.

As the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are the main focus of global and international development community, the theme for this year's Convention was '**Achieving SDGs by Empowering Communities'.** This also accentuated the co-relation between RSPs' approach and work and contribution towards achieving SDGs.

The Convention was attended by around 260 participants, including over 100 LSO representatives from all provinces and regions of Pakistan, and representatives from the federal and provincial governments, European Union Delegation (EUD) to Pakistan, donors, media, and international and national NGOs.

The Chief Guest at the Convention, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission of Pakistan, Mr. Sartaj Aziz, acknowledged the RSPs' approach to community driven development, and appreciated the powerful work that the communities are doing while making lives better for not only themselves but for each other. While speaking at the convention he maintained that empowering local communities is key to achieve SDGs.

Among other notable participants at the Convention were Ms. Marvi Memon MNA and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), His Excellency, Mr. Jean-François Cautain, Ambassador of the European Union to Pakistan, Mr. Paul Dudley Martin, Senior Adviser on SDGs to UN Resident Coordinator and Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, Chairman RSPN.

Selected LSO leaders made presentation on their work, achievements, and how they contribute towards certain SDGs. By highlighting various SDGs that are directly being affected through the community-driven development approach, it bolstered the three-tiered system adopted by the RSPs. The Convention also provided an opportunity for cross-learning as well as for strengthening advocacy efforts. The speakers at the Convention stressed on fostering and strengthening community institutions so that this social pillar is enabled to complement government's political and administrative pillars. The report for National Convention of LSOs 2017 can be accessed at (Mov-18). Short video of the convention can be accessed at https://success.org.pk/index.php/video-gallery-category/national-convention-of-lsos/

ER3: Evidence from the work of RSPs and rural communities generated and lessons documented.

Logframe Indicators:
3.1. One action research Programme completed by end of the programme
3.2. Four thematic/sectoral studies and one synthesis report completed by end of the programme
3.3. SUCCESS Programme lesson learning visits and workshops

Evidence-based learning is critical to support and strengthen policy advocacy and continuous programme improvement. In the second year of the programme, RSPN has conducted the following major activity to achieve this result:

A.3.1. Action Research on Poverty Dynamics: Under research component of SUCCESS, a quasi-experimental design of randomised control trail has been set up in two union councils of Tando Allahyar District. During the reporting period, the first annual socio-economic baseline survey (2016) report was finalised. The baseline report, highlights that large investments are required in public infrastructure but more so in governance systems so as to improve education, health, transport, environment services' status in the area. In addition to improvement in public services, a large room also exists for civil society organisations to complement and supplement the public services by working at the grassroots level with communities to foster transformational change in their perception, culture and behaviour of communities to take them along in this development journey (MoV-19).

As part of the research design this survey will be repeated with the randomly selected 2,300 households every year to track changes in the socio economic indicators of the households and overall household poverty dynamics. Taking stock of learning from the first year baseline survey which was done in house, it was decided to outsource the survey for the subsequent years to a third party survey specialist firms. During the reporting period the survey methodology and tools were further reviewed, refined and tender dossier was published. The second round of the survey will start from December 2018.

A number of associated research activities were undertaken to share incremental learning over the course of the programme through publication of research articles at international and national forums and workshops and meetings. An article titled "South-South Learning" was published on 20th October, 2016, in an internationally recognised Global Policy Journal. The article highlighted the significance of regional learning and the role of Rural Support Programmes in this regard. Yet another article titled "No Ordinary Hazards: Risking Climate Change", shed light on the vulnerabilities faced by the poor and the need for prioritising local actions with the involvement of communities' institutions in local governance. (MoV-20)

To share instant observations and reflections from the field, a new series of Researchers' Diary was initiated. The diaries have reflected on issues such as open defecation, challenges faced during the course of social mobilisation, rural urban migration, saving practices and benefits of the SUCCESS intervention (MoV-21). An article on building water resilient communities involving communities in sustainable water use policy was published in a leading national daily (MoV-22). Another article in a national daily highlighted the significance of communities' role in improving children enrolment in schools (MoV-23).

Besides, a detailed case study report titled" Escaping the Mighty Man: The long struggle of Siddique Solangi from Bonded Labour to Freedom" was completed. The study helps to understand the challenges during the struggle of the poor in a deeply entranced feudal social structure in the rural Sindh (MoV-24). In addition, baseline narrative household studies are also being carried out of 20 households by the research team in the field to understand the present socio-economic status of the households and then to track the transformational change in households with the roll out of NRSP's interventions under the SUCCESS Programme. (MoV- 25)

A3.1. ***Thematic and sectoral studies (e.g. Women Empowerment, Micro Health Insurance, CIF/IGG, CPIs, local governance, institutional sustainability, etc.):*** Under the RSPN component, certain thematic and sectoral studies are to be carried out. Upon discussion with the RSPs, it was decided to carry out the studies on the following themes:

- Study on Women's Social and Economic Empowerment. This study will be in two rounds. First round will start in the beginning of 2018 and second round in beginning of 2021.
- Study on Technical and Vocational Skills Training component (first quarter of 2020)
- Study on Micro Health Insurance component (first quarter of 2020)
- CIF/IGG (last quarter of 2020)
- Community Physical Infrastructure (CPIs) component (last quarter of 2020)

All the studies will be outsourced to third party through competitive bidding process. Procurement process has been started with for the first study. (MoV – 26)

The overarching objective of the study on Women's Social and Economic Empowerment is to analyse and document the SUCCESS Programme's approach for the social and economic empowerment of women, and how this has contributed to changes in their lives and livelihoods, i.e. poverty status. The specific objectives include:

1. To understand the rationale and approach and process of the SUCCESS Programme in the social and economic empowerment of women, poor people and marginalised groups;

2. To systematically document the real change in the lives of women, poor people and marginalised groups, once they are mobilised and become members of Community

Institutions, specifically what difference the SUCCESS Programme has contributed to bring in their position and status at personal, household and community level.

3. To identify the link between the SUCCESS Programme interventions (explained in section 4) and their impact on social and economic empower of women, and their poverty status;

4. To assess the effect of Community Institutions fostered under the SUCCESS Programme on access to services, governance processes, citizen-state relations, government engagement and responsiveness, as well as on the confidence, skills and capabilities of poor women to engage with service delivery issues;

5. To identify and document examples of good practices and failures and lessons learned from the field, both from the RSPs' side as well as from the Community Institutions' side, during the implementation of the SUCCESS Programme and post-success period;

6. To provide practical and context-specific policy and practice recommendations for improving programme implementation, and set the development agenda for post-SUCCESS Programme.

A3.2.   ***SUCCESS Programme lesson learning visits and workshops:*** As part of the RSPN component of SUCCESS, an experience sharing and learning visit was conducted on 26th February, 2017 to Jamshoro. The visit team included RSPN/RSPs senior management, Chairman RSPN, officials from UCBPRP and Technical Assistance Team.

The lesson learning visit was aimed at sharing experiences and learning of the communities in the first year of the implementation of the SUCCESS Programme. During the visit, the participants attended three different meetings; one with a Village Organisation (VO), a Local Support Organisation (LSO), and one with all the Community Resource Persons (CRPs) of TRDP. The field visit was followed by an Experience Sharing and Learning Workshop on 27th February, 2017 at Hyderabad.

The chief guest at the workshop was Mr. Fayaz Ali Butt, Provincial Minister for Public Health Engineering and Rural Development. The workshop participants included representatives of community institutions from the TRDP and NRSP area in addition to Mr. Sajid Jamal Abro, Commissioner Hyderabad, Mr. Munawar Ali Mehsar, Deputy Commissioner District Jamshoro, Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, Chairman RSPN, CEOs of RSPs, Dr. Kaiser Bengali, Economist, and Ms. Kathryn Ennis, Team Leader SUCCESS-TA Component.

At the workshop, the women community leaders expressed hope and demonstrated enthusiasm, saying their confidence had increased manifolds since the formation of their own community institutions as part of the EU funded SUCCESS Programme. They said that by coming together and learning about improving their quality of life, they feel more empowered and important in their society. Organised women have begun to take significant self-help initiatives, e.g. internal lending from their CO savings, linking up with the local Administration for access to public services, etc.

The participation of Sindh Minister for Public Health Engineering and Rural Development Fayaz Ali Butt, Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner reaffirmed the provincial government's commitment to the SUCCESS Programme. While speaking at the conference, Mr. But extended his full support for the cause and said that he was inspired by the women community leaders who were transforming their villages and improving the

quality of life of all the people. He said that the community-driven development approach of the rural support programmes should be extended to all districts of the Sindh Province.

The Commissioner Hyderabad, Mr. Sajid Jamal Abro also paid glowing tributes to the women community leaders and said that the women's confidence and clarity of mind is phenomenal. He said that the RSPs approach to development and poverty reduction has had lasting positive impact on the societies. He ensured full cooperation on part of local government and thanked EU for their support. (MoV-27)

ER4: Evidence based recommendations advocated with stakeholders, including policy makers, donors, development community, to scale up successful community development approaches within the country and beyond.

Logframe Indicators:
4.1. Community Driven Local Development Approach reflected in number of donor and government programmes and projects
4.2. Number of Advocacy events under taken
4.3. Number of Regional cooperation activities undertaken with organisations working in the regional countries

Some of the activities under ER 4 have been completed in the first year and reported in the First Interim Report (MoV-1):

A4.1.   ***SUCCESS Programme launching workshop***: Completed in year 1.

A4.2.   ***Development of communication and advocacy strategy***:   Communication and advocacy is important component of the SUCCESS Programme. For this purpose, the communication team at RSPN has developed a communication strategy to guide RSPN and RSPs for communication and advocacy related activities and compliance to branding guidelines of EU. However, in light of the guidelines provided by the EU, a comprehensive Global Communication and Visibility Strategy is being developed for all partners of the SUCCESS Programme. Draft of the strategy was developed by RSPN and shared with all the partners for feedback. After a consultative meeting between the partners and EU communications team, and feedback from all parties, the strategy shall be finalised by mid-November (MoV-28).

A4.3.   ***Advocacy Workshops with government and other stakeholders:*** Two workshops are to be arranged each year, starting from year two of the programme. However, during this year only one advocacy workshop was planned and organised. The European Union Delegation to Pakistan held 'Sindh EU Rural Development and Nutrition Workshop' from 23 – 25 August, 2017, which the RSPN organised and provided logistical support for. (MoV-29)

The goal of the workshop was to reinforce coherence of overall EU-financed rural development programmes in Sindh. Various organisations participated in the workshop including, Government of Sindh P&D Nutrition Unit, local NGOs and implementing partners of EU development projects in Sindh.

The two-day workshop was focused around nutrition sessions and rural development sessions, where the GoS, EU and EU-funded partners gave presentations about their projects, followed by group work at the end of each day to consolidate and provide recommendations for EU programming in Pakistan.

Corresponding to the specific outputs of the workshop, following key recommendations were made as the way forward:

1. All partners to continue to build on the networking that has happened during the workshop.

2. EU to continue working with Government of Sindh to move forward with the Programme for Improved Nutrition in Sindh (PINS) which is to be launched soon.

3. Multi-sectorality must be the way forward. All programmes need to come together and build synergies. The community institutions formed by the SUCCESS Programme and UCBPRP should be used for all community initiatives in Sindh.

4. EU and its partners to continue to convene forums similar to this (at least once a year).

5. Establish a WhatsApp group to enhance information sharing and networking between partners

A4.4. ***Showcase of the SUCCESS Programme interventions at cultural events:*** The cultural events provide an excellent opportunity for visibility and presenting of the work undertaken by the rural communities of Sindh under the programme. In this regard, RSPN participated in a cultural event, The Heritage Fest-Mela Yaaran, held from 17th to 19th February, 2017, in Islamabad. The three-day event showcased artefacts, handicrafts and food stalls from all over the nation, including Sindh Rural Support Organisation's (SRSO) Sartyoon Sang.

In addition to the stall, RSPN also organised a seminar titled "Women Empowerment: The Road to Success" on third day of the festival. Mr. Jean Francois Cautain, European Union's Ambassador to Pakistan, was the Chief Guest; Ms. Sonia Cautain and Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan also attended the seminar.

A panel of experts and practitioners including Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, MNA Ms. Nafeesa Khattak, Ms. Rina Saeed Khan, Professor Farkhanda Aurangzeb, Hajra and Shahida, artisans from SRSO Sukkur, and Ms. Neelum Turu shared their views on various aspects of women empowerment, and made valuable recommendations for improving the social and economic status of rural women in Pakistan. (MoV-30) This event has been unique in the sense that through this the work of EU and RSPs in promoting community driven development in Pakistan has reached to a diverse audience rather than the usual development stakeholders.

A4.5. ***Collaboration for conferences on rural-urban linkages, and other cross cutting issues e.g. population, health, sanitation and women empowerment:*** The RSPN has been collaborating with different organisations, for celebration of various events and conferences on different topics. These events/conferences provided the opportunities to highlight the work being undertaken by the rural communities under SUCCESS Programme on critical issues. So far, RSPN has been part of three such collaborative events in the reporting period (October 2016-March 2017).

RSPN, in collaboration with Akhter Hameed Khan Resource Center (AHKRC), organised a dialogue on '**Poverty, its Adaptations and Solutions in Urban Settings'** on 28th September, 2017. A similar dialogue was held in year one of the programme on urban-rural linkages, and the discussions addressed the challenges of poor rural residents and the factors that force them to seek work in cities, some of the problems they face in the cities and the living conditions in informal urban settlements where they land.

In this year's session, this debate was extended to explore what solutions are people finding, how are these solutions limited and what areas of intervention are possible that build on the solutions found by the people themselves. The debate was in the form of a plenary lecture followed by 2-3 presentations about urbanisation, its problems and solutions. The session was attended by practitioners in development, government officials interested in poverty, civil society actors and academics (MoV-31).

RSPN also collaborated on the **9th Annual Conference on Rural Women Day** in Pakistan with Potohar Organisation for Development Advocacy (PODA) held on October 19-20, 2016 in Islamabad. The two day conference saw an influx of 1,000 participants from 102 districts of Pakistan.

The conference focused on various social stigmas and issues related to the rural women of the country in the areas of access to justice, economic rights, and civil and political rights. The sessions included panel discussions by experts on topics such as, women rights; women's voices for land rights and climate change awareness to achieve sustainable development goals (SGDs) including recommendations for future steps for engaging rural women in climate mitigation; gender justice and local governments in Pakistan – understanding challenges and opportunities for women and local councillors. There were also interactive discussion sessions with women participants, councillors/government on strategies for using women specific laws and role of councillors in small conflicts and dealing with police, and the - use of pro-women laws passed by political parties. (MoV-32)

RSPN, under the SUCCESS Programme, partly funded the 17th Annual Population Research Conference, organised by the Population Association of Pakistan. The conference titled, **'Investing in Family Planning for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1-6'**, was held on November 25-26, 2016 at the Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Karachi. The conference included various panel discussions and underscored the link between population dynamics and achieving SDGs, particularly goals 1-6 for Pakistan especially examining the pathways through which fertility, mortality, and migration affect the SDGs. The objectives of the conference were to: gear Pakistan's Population Programme towards achieving SDGs; foster policy and programmatic linkages at federal and provincial level; and to provide a forum to the policy makers, researchers, politicians, religious leaders, media, civil society and development partners working on issues related to population and development to share their views and experiences on improving access to services that can help improve the health and wellbeing of our people. (MoV-33)

A4.6. *Regional Experience sharing and learning visits of RSPs/RSPN and Government staff:* The Rural Support Programmes' (RSPs) approach of community driven development (CDD) through social mobilisation is derived from the first Pakistan's RSP – Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP) in Gilgit, Baltistan and Chitral. The concept was taken to Tajikistan in the 1990s and embraced by the Mountain Societies Development Support Programme (MSDSP) of the Aga Khan Foundation (AKF).

Under the European Union (EU) supported Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support Programme (SUCCESS), a 12-member team from the Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN), National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO), Thardeep Rural Development Programme (TRDP) and Government of Sindh (GoS) undertook an experience sharing and learning visit to Tajikistan. The visit was kindly hosted and facilitated by AKF/MSDSP. The team met with AKF/MSDSP senior management, representative of EU Tajikistan, international non-government organisations (INGOs), and undertook field visits to meet with members and leaders of the Community Institutions (CIs) fostered by AKF/MSDSP in Faizobod and Garm districts of the Rasht Region and Mominobod district of the Khatlon Region.

The exposure visit, from April 7, 2017 to April 15, 2017, allowed the participants to directly observe the work of community institutions in the villages of Tajikistan, and learn from the leaders of the institutions, of their grassroots communities and networking with local government, over the last two decades. The visit gave the opportunity to visiting government official to engage with and understand the benefits of sustained government support to social mobilisation. The full details of the visit can be found at (MoV- 34a).

On April 15, 2017, the team flew to Pakistan, and from April 15-22, 2017, Chief Operating Officer RSPN undertook a visit to the Gorno Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast/Region (GBAO) to meet with AKF/MSDSP's Regional Team and community institutions to understand their achievements since the start of social mobilisation programme in 1998. The report on the visit can be accessed at (MoV-34b)

Such experience sharing visits are pertinent for evidence based advocacy and will feed into the development of the GoS's proposed Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) and help support GoS in scale up of CDD approaches in the country.

An in country exposure and learning visit was planned for the SUCCESS partner RSPs that include, National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO), Thardeep Rural Support Programme (TRDP), RSPN, representatives of District Administration Tando Muhammad Khan, Government of Sindh (GOS), and three local community representatives from programme districts.

This exposure visit allowed the participants to directly observe the work and learn from the experiences of Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP) in social mobilisation and social empowerment, and learn from active leaders of community institutions. The visiting government officials were able to understand the benefits of sustained government support to social mobilisation. The representative from the Government of Sindh was extremely impressed by the AKRSP approach and the work and efforts AKRSP is undertaking for the economic and social empowerment of the poor. This visit gave the understanding of financially endurable and viable community instructions and their approaches for the common good of society. The detailed report of the visit can be found at (MoV-35).

A4.7.   ***Annual RSPs Strategic Retreats:*** RSPN hosted a two-day RSPs' Annual Strategy Retreat 2017 on 20th and 21st May, 2017 in Bhurban, Murree. The Retreat was organised to provide a platform for the Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) to share their experiences, review strategic aspects of RSPs' work and reflect on way forward to consolidated and enhanced efforts for poverty reduction through community driven development. The Retreat acts as a forum for strategic coordination, experience sharing, networking, and showcasing of new initiatives of the RSPs and the community institutions.

It provided opportunities to other donors to learn about the RSPs social mobilisation approach and develop their interest to support this approach, and develop synergies between EU supported programmes for RSPs and their own on-going programmes

Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) Ms Marvi Memon was the Chief Guest, while Ambassador of the European Union to Pakistan His Excellency Mr Jean-François Cautain, Ambassador of Nepal Her Excellency Ms Sewa Lamsal Adhikari, RSPN board members, senior management of RSPN, Chief Executive Officers and senior management of RSPs, government representatives, donor representatives, corporate sector representatives, members of Local Support Organisations (LSOs), academics, media persons and RSPN officials attended the event.

During the annual event, RSPs, community organisation members, donors, government and other development programme stakeholders work with existing and new partners along with other supporters to review key strategic aspects of the RSP programmes focusing on improving the lives of rural poor. At the event, Ms. Marvi Memon, while giving her remarks commended the work of RSPs and RSPN across Pakistan saying that their approach to social mobilisation through community driven development is phenomenal for empowerment of women and poor, and insinuated at partnering with RSPN and RSPs for furthering these efforts of empowerment. About 5.4 million women draw benefit from BISP and receive a quarterly stipend as a part of social safety net. While the BISP focused on poverty management, Memon acknowledged that RSPs' approach and efforts were more holistic in tackling poverty. "I have seen the successes of community-driven development approach of RSPs, and we want to work together to replicate this approach to alleviate poverty. Since RSPN and RSPs have a proven model and both RSPs and BISP work across Pakistan, we can form a partnership to maximise the impact on people's lives," she suggested. (MoV-36). A shot video of annual RSPs strategy retreat can be watched at https://success.org.pk/index.php/video-gallery-category/annual-rsps-strategy-retreat/ .

A4.8.   ***Video Documentaries on the SUCCESS Programme and its interventions:*** Starting from year two of the programme, a video documentary is to be produced highlighting one intervention each year. However, due to delays in implementation of the interventions in year two, the video documentary could not be made, as the entire purpose was to highlight an intervention each year. To produce video documentaries and to strengthen its communication work through developing and implementing a communication mix products, RSPN requires services of a communication firm. For this purpose, a ToR has been developed, and the request for proposal has been published, to obtain services of the finest communication firm, through a competitive bidding process (MoV-37).

A4.9.   ***Bi-annual SUCCESS Programme Newsletter:*** The second issue of the bi-annual SUCCESS newsletter was published in the mid of October, 2016 (MoV-38), while the third issue was published in April 2017 (MoV-39), both featuring key achievements, progress, event reports, success stories and other relevant information. The newsletters focus more on the implementation of the programme in the field, and stories from the field, and less on the routine activities of the programme.

The newsletters were shared with the RSPs, government officials and other stakeholders. A digital version is available on the SUCCESS website. It is also being kept at the publications' stalls during various events.

A4.10. ***Media Campaigns (print/radio):*** As part of the radio campaign, Public Service Announcement (PSAs), Radio Magazine programme and Radio Dramas were conceived to raise awareness about the SUCCESS Programme themes and activities. The PSAs were launched in July, 2017 and played throughout the eight districts until the end of August, 2017. The airing schedule as well as the PSAs can be found at the website (MoV-40).

RSPN has been active in showcasing the events and workshops through media. All of the links to SUCCESS Programme highlighted by the news agencies can be found on the website (MoV-41).

Regular reports about the SUCCESS Programme's activities get published in the regional Sindhi and English newspapers. The field teams are keeping records of the published items. On the website they can be found at: https://success.org.pk/index.php/in-news

RSPN has been proactive on social media as well. Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/successprogramme/?ref=br_rs.) for the SUCCESS Programme is updated regularly with Programme updates, and photographs are being shared.

According to the Facebook Insights (statistical analysis too), the SUCCESS Facebook page posts reach 30,000 people on average every month. The number of people following the page has risen to over 8,000.

A Twitter handle has also been set up for SUCCESS Programme (@successprog – accessible at https://twitter.com/successprog), and it has been linked with the Facebook page. The content posted on the Facebook page automatically gets posted on the Twitter handle.

A4.11. ***Documentation of LSO initiatives:*** RSPN has documented the work of 24 LSOs in its LSO Initiatives Series to showcase the work these organisations are doing on their own, for their people. These 24 LSO initiatives have been published and updated on the SUCCESS website, as planned.

The LSO Initiatives contain case studies about the activities and achievements of the LSOs. The focus is on LSOs supporting member VOs/COs, advocating with the government for funds, creating social accountability for local governments, streamlining the management of local natural resources and strengthening local school and health systems. These LSO initiatives are published and disseminated widely in print and digital format. (MoV-42)

A4.12. ***Publication of RSPN annual report highlighting the SUCCESS Programme:*** The 2016 RSPN annual report was published in February 2017 and was widely circulated. The report contains information on promoting CDD approach in Pakistan by RSPN and a dedicated chapter on SUCCESS Programme highlighting the key objective of the programme and key achievements during the year. (MoV-43)

A4.13. ***Publication of Quarterly RSP's Social Mobilisation Outreach:*** RSPN has published four issues of Quarterly RSPs Social Mobilisation Outreach during the reporting period (October 2016 – September 2017). The Outreach newsletters feature key achievements, progress, success stories and other relevant information on promoting the CDD approach in Pakistan through the RSPs.

The Outreach #30 covers the quarter of July-September 2016, and highlights the important events, developments and successes of the RSPN and its member organisations that stood out during the quarter (MoV-44). The Outreach #31 covers the quarter October-December 2016 and also highlights the EU Ambassador, Mr. Jean-Francois Cautain's visit to the SUCCESS Programme intervention district, Larkana, and UCBPRP intervention district, Shikarpur from 9th till 12th December, 2016. (MoV-45)

The Outreach #32 covers the quarter January-March 2017 and highlights important events, developments and successes of the RSPN and its member organisations that stood out during the quarter (MoV-46). The Outreach #33 covers the quarter April-June 2017 and highlights the regional cooperation between Pakistan and Tajikistan through the exposure visit of 12-member team that included representatives from RSPN, NRSP, SRSO, TRDP and Government of Sindh. (MoV-47)

The Outreach series includes features on SUCCESS Programme and have been published and widely distributed to various stakeholders including policy makers, donors, NGOs and other stakeholders in both electronic and print form.

A4.14. ***Development and maintenance of SUCCESS website:*** The SUCCESS website (www.success.org.pk) was developed in the first year and regularly updated. Since then at the start of each subsequent years it is being thoroughly reviewed by the communication team of SUCCESS with the technical team of the agency providing maintenance services, for up-gradation and adding new features to the website. During the reporting period the design was improved with categorisation in each component of the website to improve accessibility of information and visibility of the website. Moreover the page speed has also been improved than the earlier version and new features for example a real time programme dashboard is added. The website is being updated from time to time to disseminate details about key programme events. It also contains news reports, blogs, photo and video gallery, a calendar of events, PDF copies of all publications, details about programme components, as well as graphical representation of the progress being made in terms of social mobilisation under the SUCCESS Programme. Tenders and vacancy related details are also being updated when required. (MoV-48)

According to the Facebook Insights the SUCCESS Facebook page posts reach 30,000 people on average every month. The number of people following the page has risen to over 8,000, while the success website has 7,000 visits per month, on average. The web analytics can be accessed at: http://www.success.org.pk/webalizer/default.html

A4.15. ***Printing and distribution of Visibility Items:*** As per EU's Visibility Guideline, visibility items with the approval of EU have been used in various events and publications done so far. (MoV-49)

RSPN has increased EU visibility using banners, pens, file covers, writing pads, branded brochures and mementoes specially developed for different events. In addition to this high quality visibility items, such as writing pads, folder covers, pens, USBs, caps/hats, mugs, framed photos, and acrylic sign board with the SUCCESS Programme name has been produced and distributed to partner RSPs, the EU, the TA component and the UCBPRP office and other stakeholders.

A4.16. ***Publication of research reports/papers/policy briefs and studies:*** Under the research component of SUCCESS Programme annual socio-economic surveys and short research/policy briefs are to be published. In the coming years most of the research work will focus on comparative studies, and on the impacts of the programme interventions. Till the comparative data is available the focus is on highlighting the key social sector issues like Education, Health in the programme area.

A research brief on poverty, titled **"What constitutes poverty in rural Sindh?"** has been published in print and uploaded on SUCCESS website. The purpose of this brief is to highlight the key findings of the socio- economic baseline survey that was carried out in 2016. The audience for the brief are policy makers in government, donors and other development stakeholders. (MoV-50)

The following two papers have been submitted to the upcoming Pakistan Society of Development Economists conference to be held in mid-December 2017 in Islamabad. (MoV-51)

   i.   Quantitative and Qualitative analysis on poverty and women empowerment in rural Sindh

   ii. Challenges of research in rural poverty: Lessons from large field surveys in Sindh

A4.17. ***Final Dissemination workshop:*** This will take place in the last year of the programme.

2.3. If relevant, submit a revised logframe, highlighting the changes.

The logframe has not been changed.

2.4. Please provide an updated action plan[2]

The focus for second year was on developing knowledge products, communication and visibility of the programme, supportive supervision, quality control and ensuring that the programme is being implemented efficiently as well as effectively. As we move forward to the third year, the focus will continue to be more on the communication work, coordination for the policy support component and supportive supervision for the RSPs in the implementation of the household level interventions.

Following is the updated action plan for Year 3 of SUCCESS Programme of RSPN-component:

Work Plan (Oct 2017 - September 2018)

Activity	Half-year 2						Half-year 2						Implementing body
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
ER 1: SUCCESS Programme delivery, efficiency and impact measured and reported timely													
A.1.4.Techncial support to RSPs in implementation of the M&E framework	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	RSPN
A1.5. Annual reporting on common programme KPIs			X	X									RSPN
A1.6. Up-gradation and Maintenance of MIS/GIS mapping to track KPIs	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	RSPN
ER 2: SUCCESS Programme implementation methodologies and processes standardised across the partner RSPs, in order to guarantee quality, coherence and improvements													
A2.6. Supportive supervision and quality control spot check visits	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	RSPN
A2.7. Organising RSPs strategic support group meetings (SMRT, GRG, M&E, SSRG, FACT, FACE)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		RSPN
A2.7.1 Social Mobilization Resource Team (SMRT) meetings		X								X			
A2.7.2 RSPs Gender Resource Group (GRG) meetings for gender mainstreaming within RSPs					X						X		
A2.7.3 RSPs M&E/RKM Resource Group Experience Sharing and Lessons Learning Workshop				X					X				
A2.7.4 RSPs Social Sector Resource Group (SSRG) meetings			X						X				
A2.7.5 RSPs Finance, Audit and Compliance Team (FACT) meetings						X							

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[2]   This plan will cover the financial period between the interim report and the next report.

Work Plan (Oct 2017 - September 2018)

Activity	Half-year 2						Half-year 2						Implementing body
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
A2.7.6 Forum for Advancement of Communication Expertise (FACE) - Communication Resource Group Meeting and Training - New Activity Added	X						X						
A2.8. Organising National LSO conventions											X		RSPN
R3 – Evidence from the work of RSPs and rural communities generated and lessons documented													
A.3.1. Action research on poverty dynamics			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	RSPN
A 3.2. Conduct Thematic Sectoral Study 1			X	X	X	X	X						RSPN/Consultant
A 3.3. SUCCESS lesson learning visits and workshops						X					X		RSPN
A.3.4.Young Development Professionals (Research Associates)		X											
R4 – Evidence based recommendations advocated and communicated with stakeholders, including policy makers, donors, development community, to successful community development approaches within the country and beyond.													
A4.3. Advocacy Workshops with government and other stakeholders		X											RSPN
A4.4. Showcase of SUCCESS Programme interventions at cultural events				X						X			RSPN
A4.5. Collaboration for conferences on critical issues (women, education, health, sanitation)		X	X						X	X			RSPN
A.4.6. Regional Experience sharing and learning visit to China							X						RSPN
A4.7 Implementing RSPs/RSPN staff, GoS staff and CRPs visit to other RSP Areas		X						X					RSPN
A4.8. Annual RSPs Strategic Retreat						X							RSPN
A4.9. Communication Mix Products (Documentaries on SUCCESS Programme interventions, short human interest stories, video infographics, jingle music videos, project presentations)									X	X	X		RSPN
A4.10. Bi-Annual SUCCESS Programme Newsletter	X					X							RSPN
A4.11. Media Campaign (Radio and Print Media)	X	X					X				X	X	RSPN
A4.12. Documentation of LSO initiatives	X	X					X						RSPN

Work Plan (Oct 2017 - September 2018)

Activity	Half-year 2						Half-year 2						Implementing body
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
A4.13. Publication of RSPN annual report highlighting the SUCCESS Programme			▓	▓									RSPN
A4.14. Publication of Quarterly RSPs Social Mobilisation Outreach	▓				▓			▓			▓		RSPN
A4.15. Up-gradation and maintenances of SUCCESS website	▓	▓	▓	▓	▓	▓	▓	▓	▓	▓	▓	▓	RSPN
A4.16. Printing of visibility items (e.g. folders, posters, note pads, photographs, etc.)			▓										RSPN
A4.17. Publications of research reports/ research papers/policy briefs and studies			▓			▓			██			██	RSPN
Monitoring & Evaluation and Reporting													
Monitoring of programme activities of RSPN	▓	▓	▓	▓	▓	▓	▓	▓	▓	▓	▓	▓	RSPN
Annual Evaluation of RSPN activities (year 2 and 3)	▓	▓											RSPN
Mid-term review by EU			▓	▓	▓	▓	▓	▓	▓	▓			EU consultant
Six Monthly Progress reports						▓							RSPN
Interim Narrative and Financial Report (Year 2 and 3)	▓	▓											RSPN
Annual Expenditure verification/audit of RSPN SUCCESS Programme (Year 2 and 3)	▓	▓											Audit firm

3. Beneficiaries/affiliated entities and other Cooperation

3.1. How do you assess the relationship between the Beneficiaries/affiliated entities of this grant contract (i.e. those having signed the mandate for the Coordinator or an affiliated entity statement)? Please provide specific information for each Beneficiaries/affiliated entity.

The main beneficiaries of RSPN under the SUCCESS Programme include the three RSPs, National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO) and Thardeep Rural Development Programme (TRDP), and Technical Assistance (TA) component team. Under this grant contract, the relationship of RSPN with the beneficiaries is largely that of supportive supervision and technical support in the implementation of SUCCESS Programme activities. This includes on-going assistance in monitoring of the implementation processes, and as well as coordination support.

The relationship is centred on facilitation for the implementation of the programme through standardised approach, and technical backstopping if and when an issue arises. RSPN also facilitates the beneficiaries in providing a platform to carry out planned joint activities such as joint procurement of a third party consulting firm for the baseline surveys, MHI and TVST component of the programme. The relationship also builds upon providing a channel of communication for implementation of programme activities and lesson learning which RSPN promotes between the three RSPs, the TA, UCBPRP and Government of Sindh. The relationship has remained beneficial for RSPN as well as for the partner RSPs in implementation of the SUCCESS Programme as Year 2 concludes. Monthly joint review meetings with the partner RSPs and EU; and quarterly joint review meetings in addition to RSPs with UCBPRP and TA team hosted by RSPN have helped in improved coordination among all the stakeholders and helped in resolving some of the field issues.

On the requested of the TA team RSPN is planning to help the TA team to organise a consultative workshop with all the RSPs for their CDLD policy in October 2017 and for the urban component of Poverty Reduction Strategy with key stakeholders at Karachi in November.

3.2. How would you assess the relationship between your organisation and State authorities in the Action countries? How has this relationship affected the Action?

The relationship between RSPN and state authorities has developed positively as a result of the action. The provincial governments have been cooperative and have continued to participate in various activities under the SUCCESS Programme in year 2 as well.

At the RSPs' Annual Strategy Retreat 2017, held on May 20-21, 2017, many government officials including government of all four provinces as well as representatives from Gilgit-Baltistan and FATA participated. The partaking solidified the government's commitment to supporting the work of RSPs. At the retreat, MNA and Chairperson of BISP Ms. Marvi Memon also participated and committed to working with the RSPs for the betterment of the poor communities, while insinuating at a possible partnership between RSPs and BISP.

At the National Convention of LSOs 2017, held on 15th September, 2017 many government officials including government of all four provinces, participated, and Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission of Pakistan graciously participated as the Chief Guest. Mr. Aziz not only praised the participation of the European Union and the Rural Support Programmes Network but also highlighted the importance of linking the work and goals of these programmes to the larger pictures, the SDGs.

The participation of Government of Sindh (GoS) in the regional cooperation visit to Tajikistan showed immense support for the SUCCESS Programme from the government. Mr. Shehryar Memon, Deputy Secretary (Admin), Planning and Development Department, Government of Sindh, participated in the visit and was greatly impressed by the impact social mobilisation has had in the country. He believes, "The strong relationship of civil society, development partners and the people of the land (Tajikistan) with the incumbent government, in order to fulfil the developmental needs, is an epitome for others to follow."

The participation of the senior government representatives has created ownership of the programme. The awareness about the RSPs work is opening different venues of synergies between RSPs and other donor agencies as well as private sector.

The relationship between the local district government authorities and the implementing RSPs has also been strengthened. The feedback from the district teams has been positive and the teams have claimed that the local government officials were very open and willing to coordinate and work together with them for the benefit of participating local grassroots organisations, i.e. LSOs/VOs/COs. This cooperation is observed while the Deputy Commissioners notification of community institutions and registration of LSOs by the social welfare department.

Now the district governments have also started notifying the Joint Development Committees at district and taluka level. The key objective of a Joint Development Committee (JDC) is to create synergies between the Community Institutions (CO/VO/LSO) and local administrations/departments and externally supported development investment in the programme districts in the planning of SUCCESS interventions.

This participatory planning approach will provide a learning platform for all actors concerned to avoid duplication of efforts and monitoring of collaborative efforts to impact development results. It will also contribute to the elaboration of a dedicated Sindh Government policy for local CDD to be implemented through the budget process from 2018 onwards. The District Joint Development Committee (JDC) will be chaired by Deputy Commissioner, the Taluka Joint Development Committee (JDC) will be chaired by the Assistant Commissioner of the respective taluka. Each of the JDCs will have 3 LSO representatives as their member.

It was also apparent in the time that the local district government official, Mr. Shafqat Ali Solangi, Assistant Director, Social Welfare, District Tando Muhammad Khan, Sindh, accompanied staff members from the SUCCESS Programme partners: NRSP, TRDP, SRSO, and RSPN for SUCCESS In-country Exposure Visit to Gilgit. The government official greatly appreciated the work RSPs are and said that he was highly impressed by the way community is engaged with the government administration and this could be a model system for Sindh by promoting the participatory approach.

In addition to this, the EU has also planned to initiate a four-year Programme for Improving Nutrition in Sindh (PINS), and this programme is aligned with GoS' Accelerated Action Plan for Reduction of Stunting & Malnourishment (AAP). PINS will be implemented in the 10 districts, including all the eight SUCCESS Programme districts and two districts of UCBPRP (Thatta and Shikarpur). PINS will use the platform of community institutions (CO/VO/LSO) fostered under the SUCCESS and UCBPRP programmes.

The relationship with the government has impacted the programme positively, in such a short amount of time. However, despite a good relationship with the government this approach needs to be institutionalised through a policy framework. This is where the TA-component of the SUCCESS Programme plays a role. The TA component is assisting the GoS in preparing a Poverty Reduction Strategy and a CDLD policy to institutionalise this approach at the provincial government level.

Our close coordination with UCBPRP resulted in its adoption of the approach developed for the poverty scorecard survey developed under the SUCCESS Programme. The UCBPRP has also agreed to adopt the idea of Joint Development Committees in the UCBPRP.

3.3. Where applicable, describe your relationship with any other organisations involved in implementing the Action:

The SUCCESS Programme focuses on undertaking Community Driven Development (CDD) approach and stimulating CDD initiatives in eight poor rural districts of Sindh, to reduce poverty, paying particular attention to empowering women. Under the programme, 770,000 poor rural households are to be mobilised and organised into a network of community institutions.

The GoS looking at the success of the CDD approach all over the nation, and especially in the province of Sindh, has requested for assistance in developing a budgeted Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) and a community-driven local development (CDLD) policy framework to institutionalise this approach. A CDLD policy framework refers to a budgeted local policy adopted by the Government of Sindh for this programme, which employs the global, participatory CDD approach to development. It is expected that with this policy in place the government departments will be able to link their services with the community institutions and enable genuine demand of the people to meet supply and effectively promote the development of the rural poor.

For this purpose, the EU engaged Ernst & Young (EY) as a third party consultant to assist the GoS. The EY acts as the Technical Assistance (TA) component of the SUCCESS Programme.

The TA has prepared an Inception Report, which has been widely shared with all stakeholders including the EUD, GoS, RSPs and other key stakeholders. The Inception Report presents conclusions relating to the operational context for the PRS/CDLD policy development and implementation. This includes the poverty context, PFM context, GoS and local government institutional context. The report provides an outline of planned TA strategy and approach and sets out direction for the policy development and implementation stage.

Where necessary, the RSPN facilitates the TA component with input on the programme as well as the CDD approach to development.

When the SUCCESS Programme started, RSPN and partners found out that the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) had issued new bill of rules regarding Non-Banking Micro-Financing (NBMF). The SECP introduced non-banking microfinance regulatory framework, which states that any entity without license would not be able to engage in micro-financing activity. However, under the SUCCESS Programme CIF is to be disbursed through LSOs/VOs who are non-banking entities. In addition these community institutions are involved in internal lending and saving programme. The issue was discussed in the RSPN board and a committee was formed that met with the SECP and were able to get an amendment approved to the bill that now allows persons engaged in business of micro financing, but having less than five thousand active borrowers or having outstanding loan portfolio of less than fifty million rupees entities. The notification can be accessed at the link: https://www.secp.gov.pk/document/sro-1013-i2017-amendment-in-nbfc-rules/?wpdmdl=29692 . However the amendment still has to be approved by the Federal government to be enforced as a law.

3.4. Where applicable, outline any links and synergies you have developed with other actions.

The SUCCESS Programme has been acting as a platform for RSPN as well as partners RSPs to explore avenues for synergies with other organisations. The **'Sindh EU Rural Development and Nutrition Workshop'**, which was held from 23-25 August, 2017 in Karachi, housed all of the actions/programmes of the EU in Pakistan. Through that workshop, RSPN was able to identify potential possibilities of partnership with different organisations, for SUCCESS Programme.

So far, RSPN SUCCESS team has had a meeting with GIZ, which is carrying out a skills training programme in Sindh, to figure out ways to create synergies in the field of technical and vocational training programme. RSPN team also had a meeting with the EU-funded 'Subai Pakistan project', which is a Technical Assistance project, focused on advancing the functioning of Pakistan's parliamentary institution. The purpose of the meeting was to find avenues in which the SUCCESS TA component can benefit from a technical assistance project and how to inform the parliamentarians about the SUCCESS Programme.

    3.5. If your organisation has received previous EU grants in view of strengthening the same target group, in how far has this Action been able to build upon/complement the previous one(s)? (List all previous relevant EU grants).

RSPN has not received any previous EU grants in strengthening the same target group in SUCCESS districts.

4. Visibility

Visibility and communication is one of the key area of the RSPN component. The communication activities of year 2 were implemented as planned and the detail progress has already been presented under Results – 4 above. In addition to this RSPN lays great emphasis on acknowledging the generous support of the European Union in line with the contract. Visibility of the European Union is ensured through various measures, including displaying of the logo on all published material, and banners used in the field and during various events. All press releases include clear and prominent details about the European Union being the funder of the programme. All posts on Facebook mention European Union as the funding agency. The SUCCESS website complies with the visibility guidelines of the European Union. All publications and visibility material are finalised after the approval of the European Union.

The European Commission may wish to publicise the results of Actions. Do you have any objection to this report being published on the EuropeAid website? If so, please state your objections here.

No Objection

Name of the contact person for the Action:

<u>Khaleel Ahmed Tetlay, Chief Operating Officer</u>

Signature: ……………………………………

Location: 3rd Floor, IRM Complex, Plot # 7, Sunrise Avenue (off Park Road) Near COMSATS University, Islamabad, Pakistan

Date report due: By November 30, 2017

Date report sent: November 3, 2017

Annex – I: List of Means of Verifications (MoVs)

Reference	Title
MoV-1	First Interim Report https://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/First-Interim-Narrative-Report-October-2015-September-2016.pdf
MoV-2	ROM Mission Report *(available on request)*
MoV-3	Socio-Economic Baseline Survey Report https://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/SocioEconomic-Baseline-Survey-Report-Final-Draft.pdf
MoV-4	Note for Record (NFR) of Field Visits *(available on request)*
MoV-5	SUCCESS MIS Dashboard http://mis.rspn.org/SUCCESS/SM/Index
MoV-6	KPI Report http://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/A_Year_of_success_annual_KPI_Report_2016-17.pdf
MoV-7	Report on Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) sessions *(available on request)*
MoV-8	Report on first meeting of Social Mobilisation Resource Team (SMRT) *(available on request)*
MoV-9	Report on second meeting of Social Mobilisation Resource Team (SMRT) *(available on request)*
MoV-10	Report on meeting of Finance, Audit and Compliance Team (FACT) *(available on request)*
MoV-11	Report on first meeting of M&E Resource Group (MERG) *(available on request)*
MoV-12	Report on second meeting of M&E Resource Group (MERG) *(available on request)*
MoV-13	Report on first meeting of Social Sector Resource Group (SSRG) *(available on request)*
MoV-14	Report on second meeting of Social Sector Resource Group (SSRG) *(available on request)*
MoV-15	Report on first meeting of Gender Resource Group (GRG) *(available on request)*
MoV-16	Report on second meeting of Gender Resource Group (GRG) *(available on request)*
MoV-17	Report on first meeting of Forum for Advancement of Communication Expertise (FACE) *(available on request)*
MoV-18	Report on National Convention of LSOs 2017 https://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/National-LSOs-Convention-2017-1.pdf
MoV-19	Socio-economic Baseline Report: What Constitutes Poverty in Sindh? https://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/What-Constitutes-Poverty-in-Sindh-Research-Brief.pdf
MoV-20	Article on "No Ordinary Hazards: Risking Climate Change"
MoV-21	Researcher's Diaries https://success.org.pk/index.php/research-category/researchers-diary/
MoV-22	Article on 'Sustainable Water Use Policy'
MoV-23	Article on 'Significance Of Communities' Role In Improving Children Enrolment In Schools'
MoV-24	'Escaping the Mighty Man: The long struggle of Siddique Solangi from Bonded Labour to Freedom'

	https://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Case-Study-of-Siddique-Solangi.pdf
MoV-25	Baseline Narrative Household Studies https://success.org.pk/index.php/research-category/case-study/
MoV-26	ToR for the study on Women's Social and Economic Empowerment
MoV-27	SUCCESS Programme Lesson Learning Visit and Workshop to Jamshoro https://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/SUCCESS-Experience-Sharing-and-Learning-Workshop-28.2.17.pdf
MoV-28	Global Communication and Visibility Strategy *(available on request)*
MoV-29	Report on Sindh EU Rural Development and Nutrition Workshop *(available on request)*
MoV-30	Report on cultural event: 'The Heritage Fest-Mela Yaaran – Women Empowerment: The Road to Success' http://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Showcase-of-SUCCESS-Programme-at-The-Heritage-Fest.pdf
MoV-31	Dialogue on 'Poverty, its Adaptations and Solutions in Urban Settings'
MoV-32	Report on 9th Annual Conference on Rural Women Day
MoV-33	Report on 'Investing in Family Planning for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1-6'
MoV-34a	SUCCESS Programme Regional Experience Sharing and Learning Visit to Tajikistan https://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/SUCCESS-Programme-Tajikistan-Visit-Report.pdf
MoV-34b	A Note on a Visit to the Community Institutions fostered by the Aga Khan Foundation/Mountain Societies Development Support Programme in the Gorno Badakhshan Autonomous Region of Tajikistan http://www.rspn.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Note-on-a-Visit-to-the-Community-Institutions-fostered-by-the-Aga-Khan-Foundation-Mountain-Societies-Development-Support-Programme-in-the-Gorno-Badakhshan-Autonomous-Region-of-Tajikistan-Apr-17.pdf
MoV-35	SUCCESS In-country Exposure Visit to Gilgit-AKRSP https://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/SUCCESS-In-country-Exposure-Visit-to-Gilgit-AKRSP.pdf
MoV-36	RSPN Annual Strategy Retreat 2017 https://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Post-Event-Report-RSPs-Annual-Strategy-Retreat-2017.pdf
MoV-37	ToR for Communications Consultant *(available on request)*
MoV-38	Bi-annual SUCCESS Newsletter Issue 2 http://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Newsletter-021.pdf
MoV-39	Bi-annual SUCCESS Newsletter Issue 3 https://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Success-newsletter-Issue-03.pdf
MoV-40	SUCCESS Radio PSAs https://success.org.pk/index.php/public-service-announcements/
MoV-41	SUCCESS in News https://success.org.pk/index.php/in-news
MoV-42	LSO Initiatives http://success.org.pk/index.php/lso-initiatives
MoV-43	RSPN Annual Report 2016 http://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Annual-Report-2016.pdf
MoV-44	Quarterly Outreach #30 http://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Outreach-30.pdf

MoV-45	Quarterly Outreach #31 http://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Outreach-31.pdf
MoV-46	Quarterly Outreach #32 https://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/outreach_32.pdf
MoV-47	Quarterly Outreach #33 https://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/outreach_33.pdf
MoV-48	Tenders and Vacancies https://success.org.pk/index.php/tenders/
MoV-49	Visibility Items *(available on request)*
MoV-50	What constitutes poverty in rural Sindh? https://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/What-Constitutes-Poverty-in-Sindh-Research-Brief.pdf
MoV-51	Two Papers submitted to Pakistan Society of Development Economists conference *(available on request)*